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Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/775,367

Examiner

Negussie Worku

Applicant(s)

FARRELL, BARBARA L.

Art Unit

2626

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 02/14/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-7 and 9-13.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 01 February 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 01/31/05, 02/11/05
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other

Negussie Worku
4/25/05

Kimberly Williams
KIMBERLY WILLIAMS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on January 31, 2005 and February 11, 2005 have been received and reviewed. Accordingly, the examiner is considering the information disclosure statement.

Reasons for Allowance

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: In response to the application filed February 1, 2001, a non-final Office action mailed November 16, 2004, have indicated that claims 1 was rejected, claim 7 was Allowed and claims 2-6 and 8-10 were objected to as claims having allowable subject matter as being independent upon a rejected base claim.

In response to the above-indicated office action Applicant has submitted a remarks on February 14, 2005, as discussed on pages 8-11. Applicant's remarks have ~~indicated~~ ^{indicated} a cancellation of claim 8, claims 7, 9 and 10 have been amended and claims 11-13 have been added.

Referring to claim 1, applicant argues that the prior art (Venable, US2003/0152272) is not anticipating or suggest the subject matter of the invention as claimed. In particular, the steps of determining a first slope value, the first slope value

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being a function of the difference between a plurality of the first values; determining a second slope value, the second slope value being a function of the difference between a plurality of the second values; and determining a detected edge of the document from the first slope value and the second slope value, as discussed on pages 9 and 10 of applicant's remarks.

Applicant's arguments regarding claim 1 has been found persuasive. The prior art searched and of record neither anticipates nor suggests the claimed invention of claims 1-6. Claims 7-10 have been previously allowed. The newly submitted Claims 11 is similar to claim 7.

Therefore, in view of above discussed reasons currently pending claims 1-6, 7, 9-10 and 11-13 are allowed.

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Negussie Worku** whose telephone number is 571-272-7472. The examiner can normally be reached on 9am-6pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Kimberly Williams** can be reached on 571-272-7471. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

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Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Negussie Worku
04/25/05



KIMBERLY WILLIAMS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER